

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Application

Claims 16-35 are pending in this application. Claim 16 has been amended to make it clear that operational data is provided to a user after service information has been provided so that the user can verify that the service was properly completed. Claim 22 has been amended to make it clear that the operational data is provided to show potential problems with a system, so that a user can request related service information if any service information for the system is ongoing to allow improved diagnosis of the problem with the system.

Claim Rejections

A The Present Invention

As noted in the previous office action, the present invention, as shown in Figure 30, relates to a system and method for collecting service information and operational information for various types of building systems. The advantage of the present system is that by providing access to operational data and service data, the user can better monitor the performance of their system. A user can use operational data and service data to better determine how well particular systems are working. If user detects an abnormality with the operation of a system, having access to service information can help the user pin-point potential problems with the system. Further, a user can monitor whether service has been conducted properly by having access to operational data to make sure their system has been repaired or maintained properly.

B. Kalantar

The examiner has rejected claims 16-32 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kalantar et al. ("Kalantar"). The Kalantar reference generally relates to a work management system for facility management. More specifically, the Kalantar reference relates to a system and method for managing facilities using client devices at each facility that communicate with a central management server through a network.

C. Kalantar does not disclose a method or system whereby operational and service information about a facility or a system can be retrieved such that the two types of information can be used together.

As noted in the previous response, a review of column 32, lines 25-43 shows a management server capable of receiving a task status message. Information about the status of a task, such as a service activity, is not analogous to information about how a system is operating, as the independent claims 16, 22 and 28 require. Further, the claims as now amended clearly recite how operational data can be used to verify that a service has been completed properly, and, in the alternative, how service information can be used to determine the source of a problem as indicated by operational data. There is clearly no disclosure in Kalantar of a solution that allows a user to use operational data and service data to complement each other. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 16, 22 and 28 in light of Kalantar be withdrawn. As dependent claims 17-21, 23-27 and 29-35 incorporate the limitations of the independent claims, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn as well.

D. As Kalantar Fails to Disclose All of the Limitations of Independent Claims 16, 22 and 28, the Examiner's Obviousness Rejection of Claims 33-35 Should be Withdrawn


As noted in the previous office action, claims 33-35 have been added to make it clear that the type of systems for which operational and service data is provided are selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems. The examiner has rejected claims 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over Kalantar in view of Hunter et al. ("Hunter"). As Kalantar and/or Hunter fail to disclose the limitations set forth in independent claims 16, 22, and 28, it is respectfully submitted that since claims 16, 22 and 28 are in condition for allowance, dependent claims 33-35 are also in condition for allowance since they incorporate limitations of these independent claims. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw his rejection of claims 33-35.

Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted the applicants have made a patentable contribution to the art. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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